

**Subject:** MS Colloquium-11/3/05-Langer 212/A-157

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## MATERIALS SCIENCE COLLOQUIUM

**SPEAKER:** Professor James Langer  
University of California, Santa Barbara

**TITLE:** Dynamics of Large Deformations in Glassy Solids: Why Structural Engineers May Need New Ideas in Nonequilibrium Physics

**DATE:** Thursday, November 3, 2005

**TIME:** 11:00 a.m.

**PLACE:** Building 212, Room A157

**HOST:** Igor Aronson

Refreshments will be served at 10:45 a.m.

**Abstract:** There remain many remarkably fundamental, unsolved puzzles in theories of deformation and failure of solids. For example: What is the basic difference between brittleness and ductility? How do simple solids such as metallic glasses remember --- and forget --- their histories of deformation? I will summarize some recent attempts to answer these questions, and will argue that useful progress requires exploration of new concepts in nonequilibrium statistical physics. In particular, I will describe the way in which an effective disorder temperature, not necessarily the same as the ordinary, ambient temperature, may be needed for understanding the behavior of deforming amorphous solids